



# A BALANCED VIEW

## Another Date To Remember

On Monday, September 10, 2001, I sat down at my computer keyboard to begin the process of organizing some material for this newsletter. I also had to take care of some E-mails, and then some other activities took my time. After I took care of those matters I decided I would continue the newsletter on the next day, Tuesday, September 11.

I never did get back to the newsletter for the next three weeks. Like all Americans, we were completely shocked and watched the horror on television as the days went by. Also, like some Americans, we had a personal concern. One of our sons has an art studio on Reade Street in Manhattan just four blocks from "Ground Zero". It was evening before we were able to find out that he was fine and there was no damage to his building.

When the stories of the many heroes of this disaster started to unfold, I was overcome by the incredible story of two young people, Todd Beamer of Cranbury, New Jersey, and his wife Lisa. Todd was one of the young men who, apparently, was able to storm the cockpit of United Flight #93. The hijackers had turned the plane around and some people believe the plane was headed for the nation's Capitol. As we are painfully aware, the plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania and all aboard perished.

Lisa Beamer is a young widow with two children and is pregnant with her third. I watched that beautiful young lady being interviewed on television and also saw her being introduced by President Bush when he spoke to the nation. Her resolve and strength have been an inspiration. If a person is ever in doubt about the future and strength of our nation, in my opinion, all he or she has to do is look to the Todd and Lisa Beamers of the country.



## **2002 Convention --- Pittsburgh PA**

In the spirit of the message from President Bush, we are anticipating an outstanding convention in May 2002 at Pittsburgh. In addition to the traditional activities such as "Show and Tell" and the Silent Auction, Co-Chairmen Les Firth and Ben Smith have planned some exciting activities, including:

- An incline ride up Mount Washington and Cliffside dining with a view unequalled in the world.
- A Pittsburgh city tour featuring Point State Park, the historic site of Fort Duquesne and Fort Pitt, and referred to as "The Prize" during the French and Indian War.
- A visit to the turn of the century Victorian home of Industrialist Henry Clay Frick and the Frick Art Museum and Car and Carriage Museum.
- A visit to Mary Anne Murphy and William Everett scale collections.
- Sunday dining aboard a ship sailing the city's great rivers, the Monongahela, the Allegheny, and the Ohio.

Les and Ben have planned an optional Monday post convention tour of two of architect Frank Lloyd Wright's acclaimed works, Fallingwater and Kentucky Knob, and a tour of the Everett's Ligonier home and the remainder of his scale collection. There will be an evening barbecue at Bill's home.

## **Regional Meetings ---**

### **A. Michigan**

On September 15, 2001 seventeen ISASC members met at the 4th annual meeting of the Midwest Scale Collectors at the home of Ben and Mary Smith in Brooklyn, Michigan. Ben felt that the attendance was down a little bit because of the September 11 tragedy. Members came from Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Michigan. The 2002 Pittsburgh Convention was discussed with several good program ideas being suggested. Ben said that a lengthy discussion was held on the buying of scales on the internet. He showed two



of his recent purchases, one of which was a real buy and one of which was, to use his words, "pretty bad".

## **B. Northern California**

In the last issue of "A Balanced View" I mentioned that Ralph Bergmann of San Rafael, California, sent out inquiries to those of us who live in this area asking if there would be any interest in holding a regional meeting. Ralph received a very positive response and arranged to hold the meeting on October 20, 2001, at the Faculty Club of the University of California, Berkeley. Following the meeting we will go to Bill Doniger's house to see his collection. I am preparing this newsletter prior to the meeting in order to meet mailing deadlines, thus I cannot report on the meeting. I will report how things went in the next issue. Again, many thanks Ralph for doing the work putting this together.

## **Publications**

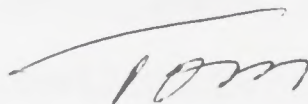
The other day I received an E-mail from a new member asking about the Library List he received in his mailing. He said that he was wondering what on the list was worth buying. I sent him a note back saying that everything was worth buying!!! Later I thought about his question and sent him another note saying that if I were in his place and wanted to buy one publication that would be the most useful in any scale collector's library, I would buy the "Handbook of Old Weighing Instruments" by Michael A. Crawforth. It is 128 pages of incredibly useful and basic information. It is only \$30 and can be ordered from Jerry Wilson, 11651 Turner Heights Drive, Escondido, 92026. Check your Library List for all the other fine publications that are available.

## Elections

Enclosed in your package with this newsletter and the October, 2001, issue of Equilibrium is a ballot for the election of four members of the ISASC Board of Directors. The Directors and Officers of your Society are shown in the masthead on the inside of the front cover of Equilibrium. The President, four Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer are elected by the membership for three year terms. Each year two members of the Board are up for election. Through the oversight of your President (me) elections were not held last year for two of the Officer positions whose terms expired on December 31, 2000. When my mistake was called to their attention, the two members, Vice President Ruth Willard, and Treasurer Edward Konowitz, graciously agreed to continue to serve until an election was held.

In addition to the above two Officers, the terms of Vice Presidents Steve Beare and Gerald Wilson expire on December 31, 2001. All have agreed to be candidates for reelection. You will note that the enclosed ballot has a provision for write-in candidates.

At the risk of sounding "partisan" I strongly urge you to vote for all four incumbents. I know the number of volunteered hours that each has contributed in order to make this Society a vibrant and successful organization. The time put in is staggering.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom", with a long horizontal stroke above it.

Tom Dooley, President  
ISASC